

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 HA-05 ACDA-12 /088 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 815

INFO USUN NEW YORK 1017

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, RP

SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT OF 32ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY: FONSEC ROMULO'S
REACTION

REF: A) STATE 000207, B) STATE 001062 C) STATE 005934

D) 015950, E) STATE 016347

1. ON JANUARY 15, THE AMBASSADOR CALLED ON FONSEC ROMULO TO CONVEY OUR VIEWS ON THE 32ND UNGA, DRAWING ON REFTELS AS APPROPRIATE. ROMULO AGREED WITH THE OVER-ALL ASSESSMENT THAT THE SESSION WAS ONE OF THE MOST CONSTRUCTIVE IN RECENT YEARS. HE SAID HE HAD EMPHASIZED THIS IN THE REPORT HE HIMSELF MADE UPON HIS RETURN HOME FROM NEW YORK.

2. ROMULO STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF AVOIDING CONFRONTATION AT THE UN. HE CITED THE POSITIVE ROLE PLAYED BY AMBASSADOR YOUNG IN THIS REGARD. NOTING THAT HE HAS KNOWN ALL PREVIOUS US REPRESENTATIVES PERSONALLY AND THUS HAS AMPLE BASIS FOR COMPARISON, ROMULO SAID AMBASSADOR YOUNG HAS DONE A "GREAT JOB" FOR THE UNITED STATES. HE SAID THERE WAS A TENDENCY ON THE PART OF EARLIER US REPRESENTATIVES TO RUB SOME DELEGATES THE WRONG WAY. IN CONTRAST,
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ROMULO LIKENED AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S UN PERFORMANCE TO "OIL ON TROUBLED WATERS". ROMULO ADDED THAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG ALSO HAS PERFORMED A VALUABLE SERVICE BY CLARIFYING TO SOME EXTENT THE US PUBLIC'S MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE UN. HE SAID THE GOP WOULD BE PLEASED TO HAVE HIM VISIT PHILIPPINES.

3. ROMULO WAS ALSO EFFUSIVE IN HIS PRAISE OF AMBASSADOR LEONARD, WHO HE SAID DID AN EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE JOB OF CARRYING THE BURDEN WHENEVER AMBASSADOR YOUNG WAS IN WASHINGTON. HE LAUDED AMBASSADOR LEONARD FOR HIS ROLE IN DISSUADING WEST GERMANY FROM SPEAKING OUT AGAINST THE PHILIPPINE INVITATION TO HOLD THE 33RD UNGA IN MANILA. (ROMULO SAID IF A FLOOR VOTE HAD TAKEN PLACE ON THIS ISSUE, THE PHILIPPINES WOULD HAVE WON BY 22 VOTES. HOWEVER, HE SAID IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A "PYRRHIC VICTORY." SINCE SOME COUNTRIES WERE SO STRONGLY OPPOSED TO THE PROPOSAL.) ROMULO GAVE CREDIT AS WELL TO UNGA PRESIDENT MOSJOV FOR HIS SKILL IN RECONCILING OPPOSING VIEWS.

4. LOOKING AHEAD TO THE 33RD UNGA, ROMULO EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF THE THIRD WORLD. HE SAID A GREAT POWER LIKE THE UNITED STATES MUST, IF NOT MOLLIFY THE THIRD WORLD, AT LEAST SHOW AN UNDERSTAND OF ITS VIEWPOINT. HE SAID PERHAPS THE MAJOR CONCERN OF THE THIRD WORLD IN THE UN FORUM AT PRESENT IS THE COMMOND FUND. HE NOTED THAT THE U.S., GREAT BRITAIN, AND WEST GERMANY HAVE TAKEN AN OPPOSITE STAND TO THAT OF THE THIRD WORLD AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS WOULD CHANGE. THE AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT THE EVOLUTION OF THE U.S. POSITION COMMON FUND AND THE DIFFICULTIES THAT THE FORMULATION OF THE GROUP OF 77 GAVE TO THE U.S. ROMULO SAID HE UNDERSTOOD,BUT EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF TRYING TO MEET THE CONCERNS OF THE THIRD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WORLD. ROMULO SAID HE ALSO HOPED FOR PROGRESS ON THE QUESTION OF DEBT OBLIGATION. THE AMBASSADOR ASKED IF ROMULO SAW THIS MORE AS A QUESTION OF DEBT FORGIVENESS OR OF SETTING UP MECHANISMS TO HANDLE THE PROBLEM. ROMULO REPLIED THAT A WAIVER OR REDUCTION OF INTEREST WOULD BE HELPFUL.

5. ROMULO ALSO GAVE THE AMBASSADOR A COPY OF HIS OWN STATEMENT ON DISARMAMENT DELIVERED AT THE UN OCTOBER 25, NOTING THAT THIS IS ONE OF HIS PET TOPICS.
NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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